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## The CIA

Millions may enjoy reading about "The Spy Who Came in from the Cold," but in real life the average person is inclined to let spies remain out in the cold. Important as espionage may seem under present world conditions, many of us cannot rid ourselves of the suspicion that undercover operations do more to upset the world than to steady it. But since spying by the West can hardly be done away with until spying by potential adversaries also ceases, we hope that Western espionage will be carried on in such a way as always to do more good than harm to the free world's cause.

We are moved to these thoughts by the appointment of Vice-Admiral William F. Raborn to head the Central Intelligence Agency. Although Admiral Raborn has had a distinguished military and industrial career, it is obviously too early to judge his competence in what is surely one of the half-dozen most sensitive jobs in America today. By competence we mean not only the ability to run a vast, complex and secret organization efficiently, but also to run it in such a way as not to damage America's image abroad. We do not expect the CIA ever to achieve the popularity of the Peace Corps.

By its very nature it will be a target for foreign attack. Communist propaganda will continue to try to persuade the world that the CIA's face is behind every tree and its hand behind every untoward event. Much of the world is only too ready to believe this. Perhaps encouraged by the CIA's roles in the overthrow of the Arbenz government in Guatemala, the Bay of Pigs incident, events in Vietnam, and the U-2 crisis, a year ago the progovernment newspaper in Ghana accused the CIA of seeking the blood of President Nkrumah.

Against such incidents, which cannot help but make the world suspicious, there are many successful and valuable CIA contributions to the security of the free world. There is, indeed, no reason to believe that the CIA's contributions do not far outweigh the mistakes it has made. Yet it is the mistakes which get the publicity and are remembered. The successes, by their very nature, can receive little or no public acknowledgement.

It is hoped that the CIA, as it goes about the tasks asked of it, will never forget that the agency will always be one of the most vulnerable facets of America. A major mistake by the CIA can do immense harm to America's foreign policy.